

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) and a corticosteroid in amounts that together are sufficient *in vivo* to mediate a synergistic decrease in proinflammatory cytokine secretion or production.

2. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said SSRI is cericlamine, citalopram, clovoxamine, cyanodothiepin, dapoxetine, escitalopram, femoxetine, fluoxetine, fluvoxamine, ifoxetine, indalpine, indeloxazine, litoxetine, milnacipran, paroxetine, sertraline, tametraline, viqualine, or zimeldine.

3. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said corticosteroid is prednisolone, cortisone, budesonide, dexamethasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, fluticasone, prednisone, triamcinolone, or diflorasone.

4. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said SSRI is fluoxetine or paroxetine and said corticosteroid is prednisolone.

5. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said SSRI or said corticosteroid is present in said composition in a low dosage.

6. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said SSRI or said corticosteroid is present in said composition in a high dosage.

7. (Original) The composition of claim 1, further comprising an NSAID, COX-2 inhibitor, biologic, DMARD, xanthine, anticholinergic compound, beta receptor agonist,

bronchodilator, non-steroidal calcineurin inhibitor, vitamin D analog, psoralen, retinoid, and 5-amino salicylic acid.

8. (Original) The composition of claim 7, wherein said NSAID is ibuprofen, diclofenac, or naproxen.

9. (Original) The composition of claim 7, wherein said COX-2 inhibitor is rofecoxib, celecoxib, valdecoxib, or lumiracoxib.

10. (Original) The composition of claim 7, wherein said biologic is adalimumab, etanercept, or infliximab.

11. (Original) The composition of claim 7, wherein said DMARD is methotrexate or leflunomide.

12. (Original) The composition of claim 7, wherein said xanthine is theophylline.

13. (Original) The composition of claim 7, wherein said anticholinergic compound is ipratropium or tiotropium.

14. (Original) The composition of claim 7, wherein said beta receptor agonist is albuterol sulfate, bitolterol mesylate, epinephrine, formoterol fumarate, isoproterenol, levalbuterol hydrochloride, metaproterenol sulfate, pirbuterol scetate, salmeterol xinafoate, or terbutaline.

15. (Original) The composition of claim 7, wherein said non-steroidal calcineurin inhibitor is cyclosporine, tacrolimus, pimecrolimus, or ISAtx247.

16. (Original) The composition of claim 7, wherein said vitamin D analog is calcipotriene or calcipotriol.

17. (Original) The composition of claim 7, wherein said psoralen is methoxsalen.

18. (Original) The composition of claim 7, wherein said retinoid is acitretin or tazoretene.

19. (Original) The composition of claim 7, wherein said 5-amino salicylic acid is mesalamine, sulfasalazine, balsalazide disodium, or olsalazine sodium.

20. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said composition is formulated for topical administration.

21. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said composition is formulated for systemic administration.

22. (Withdrawn) A method of decreasing proinflammatory cytokine secretion or production in a patient, said method comprising administering to the patient the composition of claim 1 in amounts sufficient *in vivo* to decrease proinflammatory cytokine secretion or production in said patient.

23. (Withdrawn) A method for treating a patient diagnosed with or at risk of developing an immunoinflammatory disorder, said method comprising administering to the patient the composition of claim 1 in amounts sufficient to treat said patient.

24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein said immunoinflammatory disorder is rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, polymyalgia rheumatica, giant cell arteritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, atopic dermatitis, multiple sclerosis, myasthenia gravis, psoriasis, ankylosing spondylitis, or psoriatic arthritis.

25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein said SSRI is cericlamine, citalopram, clovoxamine, cyanodothiepin, dapoxetine, escitalopram, femoxetine, fluoxetine, fluvoxamine, ifoxetine, indalpine, indeloxazine, litoxetine, milnacipran, paroxetine, sertraline, tametraline, viqualine, or zimeldine.

26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein said corticosteroid is prednisolone, budesonide, cortisone, dexamethasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, fluticasone, prednisone, triamcinolone, or diflorasone.

27. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, further comprising administering to said patient an NSAID, COX-2 inhibitor, biologic, DMARD, xanthine, anticholinergic compound, beta receptor agonist, bronchodilator, non-steroidal calcineurin inhibitor, vitamin D analog, psoralen, retinoid, and 5-amino salicylic acid.

28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, wherein said NSAID is ibuprofen, diclofenac, or naproxen.

29. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, wherein said COX-2 inhibitor is rofecoxib, celecoxib, valdecoxib, or lumiracoxib.

30. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, wherein said biologic is adalimumab, etanercept, or infliximab.

31. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, wherein said DMARD is methotrexate or leflunomide.

32. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, wherein said xanthine is theophylline.

33. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, wherein said anticholinergic compound is ipratropium or tiotropium.

34. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, wherein said beta receptor agonist is albuterol sulfate, bitolterol mesylate, epinephrine, formoterol fumarate, isoproterenol, levalbuterol hydrochloride, metaproterenol sulfate, pirbuterol scetate, salmeterol xinafoate, or terbutaline.

35. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, wherein said non-steroidal calcineurin inhibitor is cyclosporine, tacrolimus, pimecrolimus, or ISA<sub>tx</sub>247.

36. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, wherein said vitamin D analog is calcipotriene or calcipotriol.

37. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, wherein said psoralen is methoxsalen.

38. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, wherein said retinoid is acitretin or tazarotene.

39. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, wherein said 5-amino salicylic acid is mesalamine, sulfasalazine, balsalazide disodium, or olsalazine sodium.

40. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein said composition is administered in a low dosage.

41. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein said composition is administered in a high dosage.

42.- 48. (Canceled)

49. (Withdrawn) A method of decreasing proinflammatory cytokine secretion or production in a patient, said method comprising administering to a patient the composition of claim 46 in amounts sufficient *in vivo* to decrease proinflammatory cytokine secretion or production in said patient.

50. (Withdrawn) A method for treating a patient diagnosed with or at risk of developing an immunoinflammatory disorder, said method comprising administering to the patient the composition of claim 46 in amounts sufficient to treat said patient.

51. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 50, wherein said immunoinflammatory disorder is rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, polymyalgia rheumatica, giant cell arteritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, atopic dermatitis, multiple sclerosis, myasthenia gravis, psoriasis, ankylosing spondylitis, or psoriatic arthritis.

52. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 50, wherein said SSRI is cericlamine, citalopram, clovoxamine, cyanodothiepin, dapoxetine, escitalopram, femoxetine, fluoxetine, fluvoxamine, ifoxetine, indalpine, indeloxazine, litoxetine, milnacipran, paroxetine, sertraline, tametraline, viqualine, or zimeldine.

53. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 50, further comprising administering to said patient a COX-2 inhibitor, NSAID, corticosteroid, DMARD, biologic, xanthine, anticholinergic compound, beta receptor agonist, bronchodilator, non-steroidal calcineurin inhibitor, vitamin D analog, psoralen, retinoid, or 5-amino salicylic acid.

54 - 57. (Canceled)

58. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising (i) an SSRI and (ii) ~~a second compound selected from the group consisting of a xanthine, anticholinergic compound, beta receptor agonist, bronchodilator, biologic, NSAID, DMARD, COX-2 inhibitor, non-steroidal calcineurin inhibitor, vitamin D analog, psoralen, retinoid, and 5-amino salicylic acid~~ in amounts that together are sufficient *in vivo* to mediate a synergistic decrease in proinflammatory cytokine secretion or production.

59. - 65. (Canceled)

66. (Original) The composition of claim 58, wherein said non-steroidal calcineurin inhibitor is cyclosporine, tacrolimus, pimecrolimus, or ISAtx247.

67. - 69. (Canceled)

70. (Withdrawn) A method for suppressing secretion of one or more proinflammatory cytokines in a patient in need thereof, said method comprising administering to the patient the composition of claim 58 in amounts sufficient *in vivo* to decrease proinflammatory cytokine secretion or production in said patient.

71 - 72. (Canceled)

73. (Currently Amended) A kit, comprising:

(i) a composition comprising an SSRI and a corticosteroid in amounts that together are sufficient *in vivo* to mediate a synergistic decrease in proinflammatory cytokine secretion or production; and

(ii) instructions for administering said composition to a patient diagnosed with or at risk of developing an immunoinflammatory disorder.

74. (Currently Amended) A kit, comprising:

(i) an SSRI;

(ii) a corticosteroid; and

(iii) instructions for systemically administering said SSRI and said corticosteroid to a patient diagnosed with or at risk of developing an immunoinflammatory disorder, wherein said SSRI and said corticosteroid are in amounts that together are sufficient *in vivo* to mediate a synergistic decrease in proinflammatory cytokine secretion or production

75. (Canceled)

76. (Currently Amended) A kit, comprising:

(i) an SSRI;

(ii) a second compound selected from the group consisting of a glucocorticoid receptor modulator, xanthine, anticholinergic compound, biologic, NSAID, DMARD, COX-2 inhibitor, beta receptor agonist, bronchodilator, non-steroidal calcineurin inhibitor, vitamin D analog, psoralen, retinoid, and 5-aminosalicylic acid; and

(iii) instructions for administering said SSRI and said second compound to a patient diagnosed with or at risk of developing an immunoinflammatory disorder, wherein said SSRI and said non-steroidal calcineurin inhibitor are in amounts that together are sufficient *in vivo* to mediate a synergistic decrease in proinflammatory cytokine secretion or production.

77. (Canceled)